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attempt at an immediate vision of the prince or artist in hand, they leave the impression that she has not been able to free herself from the trammels of tradition. To treat the later Estes, the Ercoles and Alfonsos, other than as the giants with feet of clay which they were, is to fail to grasp political values. It is time too to give a new estimate of Boiardo, Ariosto, and Tasso. Does not Carducci's *Ode to Ferrara* weigh more than all their wares? To conclude, Miss Noyes gives us a readable book and a faithful guide to the city's antiquities, but not a history, in the large sense, admitting us to the council of the fates.

FERDINAND SCHWILL.

Études Critiques sur la Vie de Colomb avant ses Découvertes. Les Origines de sa Famille, Les deux Colombo, ses prétendus Parents, La vraie Date de sa Naissance, Les Études et les premières Campagnes qu'il aurait faites, Son Arrivée en Portugal et le Combat Naval de 1476, Son Voyage au Nord, Son Établissement en Portugal, son Mariage, sa Famille Portugaise. Par HENRY VIGNAUD, Premier Secrétaire de l'Ambassade Américaine, Vice-Président de la Société des Américanistes. (Paris: H. Welter. 1905. Pp. 543.)

MR. VIGNAUD is well known by his earlier work on Columbus and Toscanelli, in which he showed that the former was not a correspondent of the latter, and could not have learned from the Florentine astronomer and geographer anything to put him on the lookout for a new world or a passage to the old one of Asia. In the present volume he gives a series of critical studies of successive periods and events in the youth of Columbus, in each of which he disproves one or other of the legends that have made the Columbus of history very unlike the real man. His main thesis is that Columbus told his son Ferdinand and Las Casas the stories made known after his death by that son and by Herrera and Oviedo and later chroniclers. He acquits Washington Irving, whose *Life of Columbus* was published in 1828, and Humboldt and later biographers and writers, of any blame for following these legends, for they had no access to other sources. He does, however, dismiss with short shrift Mr. John Boyd Thacher, who in our own day has written a life of Columbus, with too little reference to the great mass of material made public in the last few years. Mr. Vignaud pays due tribute to the researches of Henry Harrisse, but complains that he had no sense of historical perspective and did not appreciate the value of the facts he had unearthed. To Winsor he pays tribute for his clear historical vision that enabled him to make good use of the work of Harrisse and other students of the Columbian period. It was not until the numerous and important publications, in honor of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, by Spain and Italy, to celebrate their great hero, revealed a mass of hitherto unknown or inaccessible material, that the theories of Gonzalez de la Rosa and Ruge

and other doubters of the legends of Columbus, could be fully established. Mr. Vignaud does this with exhaustive bibliographical references, and among other things characteristic of his work, gives the legendary and the true pedigree and family tree of Columbus, the former of the Lombard family claimed as ancestors, dating back to 960, the other beginning with the father of Columbus, and ending with the living Duke of Veragua. Mr. Vignaud maintains that Columbus told the stories of his great ancestors, of his noble birth, of his education at the University of Pavia, of his voyages to Iceland and England, of his sea-battles, to his son and Las Casas, that they might embody these statements in their accounts of his life and achievements, and thus justify his claims to high office and other marks of distinction from the Spanish king, and this they did in the works that have embodied these legends in history. Mr. Vignaud undertakes to show that Columbus was born in 1451, in Genoa, son of a silk-weaver, of a family which belonged to that gild, and that all his little education was obtained at a school maintained by that gild for the children of its members in Pavia Street in Genoa; that he never was a student at the University of Pavia, that the little he knew of Latin, geography, astronomy and kindred sciences, he acquired in Portugal, that his only sea-voyages were trading excursions to islands near Genoa, until he started for England and some northern ports, in a merchantman that was attacked at sea, driven back to Portugal, then started afresh and touched at Bristol and Galway, but never reached Iceland; returning to Portugal, he settled and married and had a son and lived there until he went to Spain. Of his later and greater life, Mr. Vignaud proposes to tell the real story in a future volume. He pays tribute to the qualities that made Columbus great, his boldness, daring, spirit of adventure, energy, tenacity, strong will, but points to the high authority of Humboldt for the want of technical knowledge on the part of Columbus, his blunders and mistakes in scientific matters that were in his day matters of common knowledge, taught at every good school, and to which Columbus made pretence in vain. He shows that much real knowledge of facts, in spite of want of method, is supplied in the Spanish publications in honor of Columbus, on the fourth centennial of 1492, and much useful information opened to the world for the first time in the great work issued by the Italian government in 1892-1894, containing facsimiles of all the autograph writings of Columbus still extant, and, of still more value and importance, one hundred and thirty-eight authentic documents from the archives of the notaries of Genoa and Savona, between 1428 and 1578, all relating to Columbus and his family, with a critical memoir and a genealogical tree, of the best kind and of absolute verity. He points out the discrepancies in the dates assigned to the birth of Columbus, 1435 or 1436, 1441 or 1447, and in the places claimed for it, and that neither Columbus nor his son Ferdinand, his chosen and designated biographer, ever give date or place, both of which must have been known to them. He shows that at the age of

twenty-one, when it is claimed that he commanded a ship for King René, he was still a weaver, helping his father keep a little tavern, that he did not go to Portugal in 1474, but in 1476, that many of the facts stated by his son and by Las Casas and Herrera and Oviedo, were invented by Columbus, to be used in bolstering up his claim to hereditary greatness. Only in our own day the *History* of Las Casas was printed for the first time by the Academy of History of Madrid, and while Ferdinand Columbus and Herrera drew most of their material from it, there are incongruities suggesting that Columbus varied in his story and tried to improve it at each retelling, yet made positive statements that are at variance with contemporary documents only lately published. It is not necessary to accept all of Mr. Vignaud's hypotheses and inferences, but it is impossible not to admire and respect his bibliographical fulness, his exact references, his painful search after the truth, and his faith in the value and importance of modern canons of historical criticism. To solve the doubts as to the time and place of birth of Columbus, he gives references to over a hundred volumes, from the contemporary sources, Navarrete, Ferdinand Columbus, Las Casas, to the monumental work of the Italian scholars, with its wealth of original materials, to works specially devoted to the question of the date and place of the birth of Columbus, and then the authorities for each of the dates claimed from 1434 to 1456. Mr. Vignaud has dedicated his book to Professor Alcée Fortier of Tulane University, New Orleans,—a grateful tribute to a scholarly historian, and to their common mother state, Louisiana. He promises further volumes on the later years and greater deeds of Columbus, so that we may yet hope to know all the truth as he sees it. Until his work is completed, it is too soon to criticize his reasoning, but even in this first part, he shows a desire to get at the truth. How far his method may be found the best for his purpose can only be decided when he gives the world his whole story of the real Columbus.

Industrial Organization in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.

By GEORGE UNWIN. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1904. Pp. viii, 277.)

UNWIN announces as the chief purpose of his book the bridging of the chasm that separates medieval from modern industrial history, the discovery of the links between the gild and the trade-union. There is here a certain external similarity with the subject of Brentano's brilliant essay of 1870 on the history of gilds and the origin of trade-unionism. There is an added resemblance in the gift for generalization possessed by the two writers; both dwell upon analogies and parallels rather than upon distinctions and differences, and in both, therefore, the predilection for the comparative method is marked. But on the special theme in question, Unwin goes farther than his forerunner, in the amount of evidence adduced and in his conclusions. Brentano, it will be remembered, expressly denied any direct connection between the